

Amendments to the Specification:

The Publishing Division has correctly noted that, while there is a FIG. 5 in the subject application, FIG. 5 is not referred to in the Description of the Drawing section. Thus, lines 6 - 9 of original page 7 have been revised as indicated immediately below:

FIG 3 is a diagram of a first file access architecture in an exemplary subsystem;~~and~~

FIG. 4 is a diagram of a second file access architecture in an exemplary subsystem;~~;~~ and

FIG. 5 is a high level flow chart of a preferred embodiment of the invention.

While the foregoing changes add a line to page 7 as revised, it was nevertheless possible to make the addition of the description of FIG. 5 without overflowing onto page 8. Thus, it is only necessary to substitute the enclosed Revised Page 7 for the original to correct the problem.

FIG. 1 is a generalized view of a plurality of data processing systems, each having intermediate and leaf subsystems, interconnected in a relationship which permits transaction processing among the participants;

FIG. 2 is a process diagram illustrating two-phase transaction processing as widely practiced in the art;

FIG. 3 is a diagram of a first file access architecture in an exemplary subsystem;

FIG. 4 is a diagram of a second file access architecture in an exemplary subsystem; and

FIG. 5 is a high level flow chart of a preferred embodiment of the invention.

#### Description of the Preferred Embodiment(s)

Modern transaction processing should be carried out with processes having certain fundamental properties: 1) atomicity, 2) consistency, 3) isolation and 4) durability.

“Atomicity” means that a transaction is an indivisible unit of work: All of its actions succeed or they all fail.

“Consistency” means that after a transaction executes, it must leave the system(s) in a correct state or it must abort. If the transaction cannot achieve a stable end state, it must return the system(s) to its (their) initial state.

“Isolation” means that a transaction’s behavior is not affected by other transactions that execute concurrently. The transaction must serialize all access to